Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

June 2018

This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Quebec and its regions.

OVERVIEW

The latest estimates from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey show that the Quebec labour market slowed down during the second quarter of 2018. Employment fell (-3,100) for a first time following ten consecutive quarters of growth. All of the losses were recorded in full-time employment (-36,600) while the number of part-time jobs increased (+33,500). The Quebec labour market lost momentum in the second quarter of 2018, with an employment decrease (-0.1%) in comparison to Ontario, where employment grew by 0.5% and to Canada, where it increased by 0.2%.

Over the past year, the labour market situation remained favorable, with a gain of 54,900 jobs (+1.3%), an increase which is due to full-time jobs (+86,000 or +2.5%). This solid performance allowed the employment rate to rise by 0.3 percentage point and reach 61.2%. All categories of workers participated in this growth, but those of the public sector stood out in particular, with a 2.1% employment increase in comparison to the same period last year. They were followed by private sector workers who saw a 1.2% employment growth, while employment for self-employed workers rose by 0.6%.

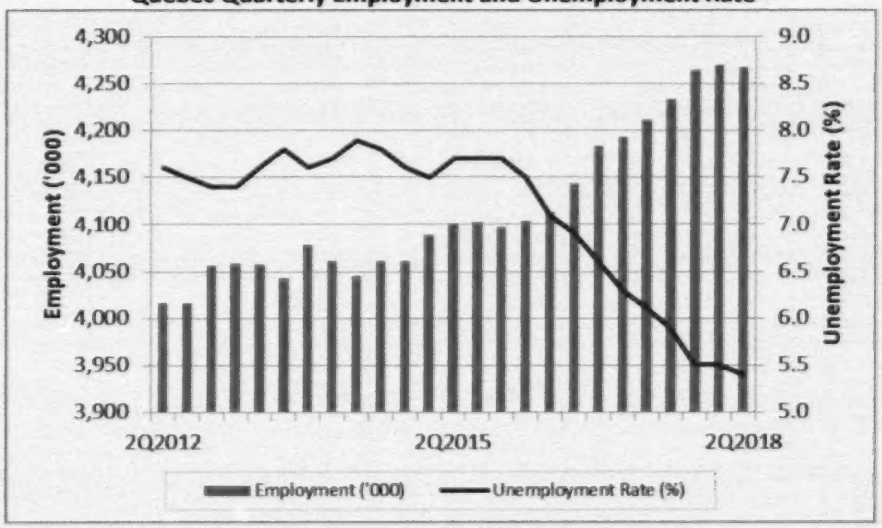
Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	2nd Quarter 2018	1st Quarter 2018	2nd Quarter 2017	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,976.5	6,961.1	6,925.1	15.4	0.2	51.4	0.7
Labour Force ('000)	4,508.8	4,519.1	4,486.0	-10.3	-0.2	22.8	0.5
Employment ('000)	4,266.8	4,269.9	4,211.9	-3.1	-0.1	54.9	1.3
Full-Time ('000)	3,460.4	3,497.0	3,374.4	-36.6	-1.0	86.0	2.5
Part-Time ('000)	806.4	772.9	837.5	33.5	4.3	-31.1	-3.7
Unemployment ('000)	242.0	249.2	274.1	-7.2	-2.9	-32.1	-11.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.4	5.5	6.1	-0.1	-	-0.7	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.6	64.9	64.8	-0.3	-	-0.2	-
Employment Rate (%)	61.2	61.3	60.8	-0.1	-	0.4	-

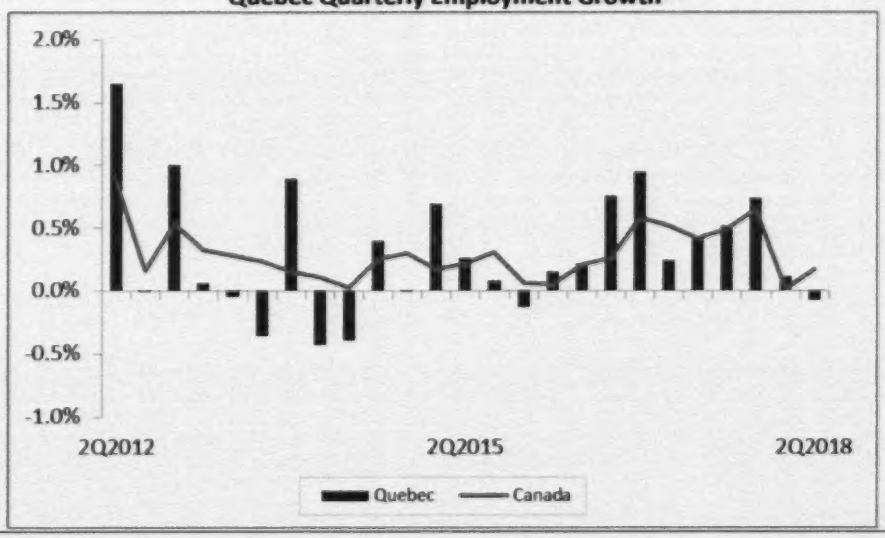
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Quebec Quarterly Employment and Unemployment Rate



Quebec Quarterly Employment Growth



Canada

In comparison to the previous quarter, the participation rate decreased (-0.3%) and settled at 64.6% in the second quarter of 2018. This decline can be explained by a decrease in the labour force while the working-age population grew. The same situation can be observed on a yearly basis. The working-age population grew at a faster pace than the labour force, leading to a decline of the participation rate (-0.2 percentage point).

The number of unemployed people has dropped by 7,200 since the previous quarter. This decline, combined with a decrease in the labour force, has brought the unemployment rate down to 5.4%. Behind British Columbia (5.2%), Quebec posted the lowest unemployment rate among all Canadian provinces. On a yearly basis, Quebec had 32,100 fewer unemployed people in the second quarter of 2018 than during the same period in 2017, amounting to a significant 11.7% decrease.

During the last quarter, the unemployment rate for 15-24 year-olds rose by 0.3 percentage point, to settle at 9.7%. This increase is attributable to a growth of the unemployment rate for young men (from 9.7% to 11.7%). In the 25 and over age group, the unemployment rate for men remained stable, at 5.1%, while the rate for women decreased (-0.4 percentage point), to settle at 4.3%. Over a one-year period, except for the 15-24 age group, the unemployment rate for men decreased for all age groups (15 and over, 25 and over, 25-54 year-olds, 55 and over). Amongst others, women of the 15-24 age group saw the most significant decrease, 2.0 percentage points over one year, while a 0.7 percentage increase was recorded for men in this age group.

Quebec Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	2nd Quarter 2018 (%)	1st Quarter 2018 (%)	2nd Quarter 2017 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	5.4	5.5	6.1	-0.1	-0.7
25 years and over	4.7	4.9	5.4	-0.2	-0.7
Men - 25 years and over	5.1	5.1	5.7	0.0	-0.6
Women - 25 years and over	4.3	4.7	5.1	-0.4	-0.8
15 to 24 years	9.7	9.4	10.4	0.3	-0.7
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.7	9.6	11.0	2.1	0.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	7.7	9.1	9.7	-1.4	-2.0

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Quebec - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q2 2018	Q2 2017	Number	%	Q2 2018	Q2 2017	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	103.4	100.2	3.2	3.2	6,873.2	6,825.0	48.2	0.7
Labour Force ('000)	63.6	54.4	9.2	16.9	4,469.1	4,454.1	15.0	0.3
Employment ('000)	57.5	48.6	8.9	18.3	4,232.6	4,180.0	52.6	1.3
Full-Time ('000)	44.4	38.0	6.4	16.8	3,436.5	3,363.3	73.2	2.2
Part-Time ('000)	13.2	10.6	2.6	24.5	796.1	816.7	-20.6	-2.5
Unemployment ('000)	6.1	5.8	0.3	5.2	236.6	274.1	-37.5	-13.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.6	10.7	-1.1	-	5.3	6.2	-0.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	61.5	54.3	7.2	-	65.0	65.3	-0.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	55.7	48.5	7.2	-	61.6	61.2	0.4	-

Notes: *The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.*
Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.
Totals may not add due to rounding.
Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.
Source: *Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - ESDC custom table.*

In the second quarter of 2018, the total population aged 15 and over in Quebec was almost 7.0 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 1.5% of this total, or 103,400 persons. During the second quarter of 2018, 57,500 people in the Indigenous population were employed, corresponding to an increase of 8,900 jobs (+18.3%) year over year. This growth is partly explained by a gain in part-time jobs (+2,600) and by a gain in full-time jobs (+6,400).

In the second quarter of 2018, the unemployment rate of the Indigenous population was 9.6%, a decrease of 1.1 percentage point in comparison to the second quarter of 2018. This rate also decreased for the non-Indigenous population, by 0.9 percentage point, and settled at 5.3%. Year over year, the participation rate of the Indigenous population increased by 7.2 percentage points, and settled at 61.5%, while this rate decreased somewhat (by 0.3 percentage point) for the non-Indigenous population, and settled at 65.0% in 2018. Finally, the employment rate increased in 2018 for the Indigenous population (+7.2 percentage points), to settle at 55.7%, as well as for the non-Indigenous population, from 61.2% to 61.6% (+0.4 percentage point), in comparison to the second quarter in 2017.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

On an industrial basis, the service sector grew, and posted an increase of 2,400 jobs (+0.1%) since the last quarter. The following industries contributed most to this progression: accommodation and food services (+7,800); business services (+2,600); health care and social assistance (+2,200); and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+1,900). In total, the service sector added 52,500 new jobs over the past year. Except for professional, scientific and technical services (-3,600 jobs) and for information, culture and recreation (-10,600), all other industries posted positive results.

The goods-producing sector saw a decline of 5,500 jobs (-0.6%) in comparison to the previous quarter. This decrease is attributable to the manufacturing industry, which suffered the most significant losses (-8,400) and, to a lesser degree, to agriculture (-500) and construction (-400). However, the utilities sector and the forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying sector industry well, with gains of 2,300 and 600 jobs, respectively. Over a yearly period, the goods-producing sector fared well, gaining 2,300 jobs. The forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying industry had a good performance, with a 13.1% employment surge at a time when the agriculture (-3.5%) and utilities (-1.9%) industries experienced losses.

Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	2nd Quarter 2018	1st Quarter 2018	2nd Quarter 2017	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,266.8	4,269.9	4,211.9	-3.1	-0.1	54.9	1.3
Goods-producing sector	854.8	860.3	852.5	-5.5	-0.6	2.3	0.3
Agriculture	54.7	55.2	56.7	-0.5	-0.9	-2.0	-3.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	38.8	37.2	34.3	1.6	4.3	4.5	13.1
Utilities	25.6	23.3	26.1	2.3	9.9	-0.5	-1.9
Construction	247.6	248.0	247.3	-0.4	-0.2	0.3	0.1
Manufacturing	488.2	496.6	488.1	-8.4	-1.7	0.1	0.0
Services-producing sector	3,412.0	3,409.6	3,359.5	2.4	0.1	52.5	1.6
Trade	665.5	666.2	665.3	-0.7	-0.1	0.2	0.0
Transportation and warehousing	219.7	220.1	205.6	-0.4	-0.2	14.1	6.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	239.0	237.1	231.9	1.9	0.8	7.1	3.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	326.0	325.2	329.6	0.8	0.2	-3.6	-1.1
Business, building and other support services	191.2	188.6	176.4	2.6	1.4	14.8	8.4
Educational services	294.3	295.7	292.6	-1.4	-0.5	1.7	0.6
Health care and social assistance	588.4	586.2	574.5	2.2	0.4	13.9	2.4
Information, culture and recreation	177.6	184.3	188.2	-6.7	-3.6	-10.6	-5.6
Accommodation and food services	278.6	270.8	272.2	7.8	2.9	6.4	2.4
Other services	179.0	182.8	174.3	-3.8	-2.1	4.7	2.7
Public administration	252.8	252.6	248.8	0.2	0.1	4.0	1.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

During the past year, four economic regions saw employment increases: Laval (8.5%), Bas-Saint-Laurent (7.1%), Chaudière-Appalaches (5.5%) and Estrie (5.1%). On the other hand, Centre-du-Québec (-5.2%) and Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (-3.1%) saw employment declines.

Except for the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine region (+1.3 percentage point), the unemployment rate was falling in all other economic regions in Quebec over the past year. Some of the most significant decreases were seen in Côte-Nord et Nord-du-Québec (-2.1 percentage points), Capitale-Nationale (-1.6 percentage point) and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (-1.4 percentage point).

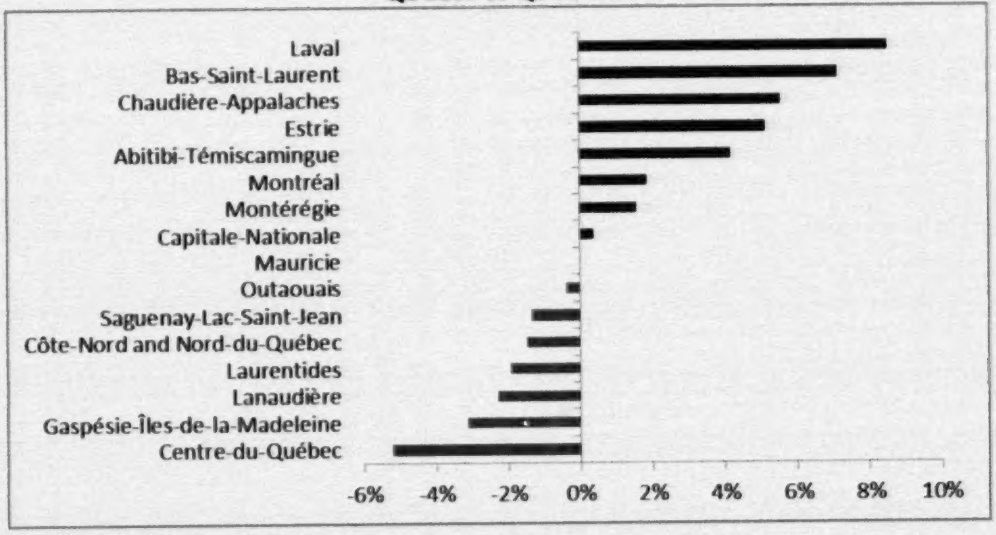
Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	2nd Quarter 2018 ('000)	2nd Quarter 2017 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	2nd Quarter 2018 (%)	2nd Quarter 2017 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,292.2	4,234.3	1.4	5.3	6.2	-0.9
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	37.4	38.6	-3.1	12.6	11.3	1.3
Bas-Saint-Laurent	91.8	85.7	7.1	5.6	6.1	-0.5
Capitale-Nationale	403.6	402.1	0.4	3.7	5.3	-1.6
Chaudière-Appalaches	221.0	209.4	5.5	3.3	3.5	-0.2
Estrie	163.6	155.6	5.1	4.2	5.5	-1.3
Centre-du-Québec	118.4	124.9	-5.2	5.1	5.2	-0.1
Montérégie	825.1	812.5	1.6	3.7	4.5	-0.8
Montréal	1,049.8	1,030.6	1.9	7.8	8.7	-0.9
Laval	238.4	219.7	8.5	4.5	5.7	-1.2
Lanaudière	258.4	264.4	-2.3	4.8	5.4	-0.6
Laurentides	302.7	308.6	-1.9	5.8	5.9	-0.1
Outaouais	204.5	205.3	-0.4	5.1	5.5	-0.4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	77.6	74.5	4.2	4.7	5.2	-0.5
Mauricie	120.6	120.6	0.0	4.3	5.6	-1.3
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	125.5	127.2	-1.3	6.5	7.9	-1.4
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	53.7	54.5	-1.5	4.4	6.5	-2.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293

Quebec Quarterly Employment Growth, by Economic Region
Q2-2017 to Q2-2018



Note: *In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.*

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For information on the Labour Force Survey, *please visit the Statistics Canada website at:*
www.statcan.qc.ca

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